all this into his painting, T cannot say; but ho copied nature religiously and just as he saw it, so thai his painting suggests all this in spite of him. It is a very religions kind of painting, ECCE HOMO: something very poor, which should be clothed in a hurry because it is ugly when naked. The necessary hypocrisy, or religion: whence the heptatych: the *Mystic Adoration of the Lamb.*

Goya: *Inquisition.* Everything has been said on this subject. *Portrait of a Girl:* I can't understand it at all. I spent an hour in front of it though, for I went back to it every day. Recognized from the end of the hall; and yet I had never seen any Goya, but I knew what it would be like. Manet borrowed a great deal from him. Everything still remains to be said about it.

I ought not to write these utterly objective notes in this notebook, but I have made these paintings mine. They enriched me considerably,

On the way to Nancy. Friday 7 August*

This morning, although with hardly any hope left, 1 ran once more to the Dinant post office, where finally I find a letter from the man of integrity, the letter I have been so long expecting. , . „

Afterward, on the way back, I was as if drunk, and in spite of myself I shouted with joy. Little girls turned around to look at me and were amazed to see anyone so happy.

I really needed that letter. As my spirit is accustomed to be in moments of silence, it has been crushed by doubt and mad restlessness these last few days.

And now, suddenly, I am happy, I am happyl Oh, how everything takes its coloring from usl

Han Grottoes

This very moment I have finished reading *War and Peace.* Begun the first day of the trip; finished the last day. Never, I believe* have I lived so completely in books. In fact, I haven't traveled. The

other day, in the famous grottoes, I couldn't even look around me; I was thinking of Schopenhauer, who was waiting for me in the carriage, and it annoyed me to have interrupted my reading in order to look at a landscape.

But later on, from all these visions I have glimpsed, I reconstruct in my own manner a few necessary landscapes,

My mind was quibbling just now as to whether one must first be before appearing, or first appear and then be what one appears. (Like the people who first buy on credit and later worry about their debt; appearing before being amounts to getting in debt toward the physical world.)

Perhaps, my mind said, we *are* only in so far as we *appear*: